

October 4, 2002

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative
Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Powell:

On behalf of the Competitive Telecommunications Association ("CompTel"), I am writing to support the nomination of Mr. Jimmy Jackson of General Communication, Inc. ("GCI") for the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") Board of Directors seat designated for a representative of interexchange carriers with less than \$3 billion in annual revenues. GCI formally nominated Mr. Jackson for this seat on October 1, 2002.

CompTel is the leading trade association for companies in this category. The vast majority of CompTel's members have annual revenues below \$3 billion, and provide at least some (and in many cases substantial) interexchange services. As you know, CompTel was originally organized as the Association of Long Distance Telephone Companies (ALTEL) in 1981 to promote competition with AT&T, although CompTel has since expanded to include local service, wireless providers and ISPs and has kept pace with the industry's changing landscape.

Mr. Jackson has served with distinction on the USAC Board since its inception. During his term on the Board, Mr. Jackson has served at various times on each of the programmatic committees, including the Rural Health Committee, the Schools and Libraries Committee, and the High Cost/Low Income Committee. He is currently the Secretary of the Board of Directors and serves on the Executive Committee. Through this service on the Board and each of the various committees, Mr. Jackson has a thorough understanding of all of USAC's programs and also the historical knowledge of its operations. Mr. Jackson's experience and knowledge will be extremely valuable in helping to guide USAC as it meets the challenges of the coming years.

Sincerely,

H. Russell Frisby, Jr.
President